

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7, 10-16 and 18-82 are pending in the present application. Claims 8, 9 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice and claims 70-82 are new. Claims 11-13 and 20-69 are withdrawn. Of the remaining claims, claim 1 and new claim 70 are independent.

Claims 1-6, 10, 14-16 and 19 were rejected as being anticipated by Angelchik (U.S. Patent No. 4,352,358). Claims 1, 7 and 19 were rejected as being anticipated by Zegdi et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,893,886). Claims 1, 6, 8 and 18 were rejected as being anticipated by Yencho et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,206,913).

Claim 7 was rejected as being obvious over Angelchik in view of Ramberg (U.S. Patent No. 2,962,050 A).

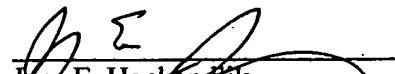
Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 9 and 17 would be allowed if rewritten into independent form. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 8 and 9 and new claim 70 is dependent claim 17 rewritten into independent form thereby placing all claims in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-412-3322.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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